

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 INR-05 CIAE-00 EB-04  
TRSE-00 OMB-01 EUR-08 PRS-01 L-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
INRE-00 /047 W

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O R 132113Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4444  
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 0117

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAID, BB  
SUBJECT: UK TO JOIN BARBADOS IN REQUESTING BALANCE OF PAYMENTS  
ASSISTANCE

1. VISITING BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT  
JUDITH HART TOLD ME THAT AT THE REQUEST OF BARBADOS THE UK  
WOULD SOON CALL UPON THE WORLD BANK TO CREATE SUB-GROUPS  
COMPOSED OF THE UK, US, CANADA, VENEZUELA, THE EEC, AND  
POSSIBLY TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TO PROVIDE BARBADOS AND GUYANA  
WITH BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (BOP) ASSISTANCE. ON NIGHT OF  
JANUARY 12 WHEN SHE FIRST BROACHED THIS WITH ME, MRS. HART  
WAS SOMEWHAT VAGUE AS TO THE EXTENT OF BARBADOS' BOP  
PROBLEMS. SHE ALSO SEEMED UNCERTAIN AS TO THE MODALITY OF  
SETTING UP CARIBBEAN GROUP FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUB-GROUPS.  
AT LUNCHEON JANUARY 13, SHE TOLD ME WITHIN A WEEK BARBADOS  
WOULD PROVIDE BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION FOR BOP ASSISTANCE.  
SHE ALSO TOLD ME SHE EXPECTS BARBADOS TO SEND THE WORLD BANK  
A FORMAL REQUEST FOR THE CREATION OF A SUB-GROUP. SHE  
SUPPOSED UK WOULD ALSO BE IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE BANK AS  
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WELL AS WITH POTENTIAL DONORS. SHE SAYS SHE FOUND  
ENTHUSIASM IN CARACAS FOR VENEZUELAN CONTRIBUTION TO REGIONAL  
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION PROJECTS BUT HAD NOT  
RAISED BOP SUPPORT WITH VENEZUELA. I SAID NOTHING TO ENCOURAGE  
HER BUT POINTED OUT TO HER THE DIFFICULTIES I EXPECTED WE  
WOULD HAVE IN PROVIDING BOP SUPPORT.

2. COMMENT: IT APPEARS BARBADOS HAS CONVINCED THE BRITISH THAT THEY FACE A SERIOUS BOP SITUATION. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT AND THE TRUE NATURE OF THE PROBLEM IF IN FACT IT EXISTS. AT FIRST SIGHT IT WOULD APPEAR THAT BARBADOS WHICH IS HIGHLY RESENTFUL AT ITS EXCLUSION FROM SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WHILE JAMAICA AND GUYANA ARE SO FAVORED, HAS HIT UPON A CARIBBEAN GROUP SUB-COMMITTEE AS A MEANS OF ASSURING THAT BARBADOS OBTAINS THE ASSISTANCE IT DESIRES. BECAUSE THE U.S. HAS BEEN FORTHCOMING WITH JAMAICA AND GUYANA THIS DEVELOPMENT HAS POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS INSOFAR AS OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH BARBADOS IS CONCERNED. WE ARE IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION AND WILL REPORT SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS.

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## Message Attributes

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**SAS ID:** 3779376  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UK TO JOIN BARBADOS IN REQUESTING BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ASSISTANCE  
**TAGS:** EAID, BB  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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